

**REMARKS**

Claims 46-66 are pending in this application. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation Examiner's withdrawal of the previous rejections and allowance of claims 46-61. Claims 62-66 are rejected.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the remarks made herein and entry of this Reply into the record for this application.

**THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112,  
SECOND PARAGRAPH, SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN**

Claims 62-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being incomplete for omitting essential steps. Specifically, it is alleged that the claims are directed toward a method of producing or purifying a polypeptide, but that the claims fail to recite any active method steps that lead to the recovery of the protein. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants believe the rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

First, contrary to the allegation made in the Office Action, claims 62-66 are not directed to a method for *purifying* a polypeptide and do not require the production of a *purified* polypeptide. Rather, the claims are directed to a method for *producing* a polypeptide and such a method does not require that the polypeptide be purified. To produce a polypeptide, it is sufficient to culture a host cell comprising a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide under conditions which result in the expression/production of the polypeptide.

Claims 62-66 recite all of the essential steps for the production of a polypeptide. For example, claim 62 recites a method of producing a polypeptide, comprising culturing a genetically engineered host cell, which comprises a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:19 or the complement thereof operatively associated with a regulatory element that directs the expression of the nucleic acid, under conditions in which the nucleic acid is expressed. Thus, the claimed methods recite all of the steps required to produce a polypeptide and do not require additional purification steps.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully request that the present remarks be made of record in the present application. Applicants believe that the rejection has been overcome and/or obviated. An allowance of the application is therefore earnestly requested. If any issues remain in connection herewith, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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